

***SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
TIPPECANOE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
MARCH 11, 2003***

The Tippecanoe County Commissioners and Tippecanoe County Council met in a special joint meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2003 at 11:00 A.M. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Commissioners present were: President KD Benson, Vice President Ruth E. Shedd, and Member John L. Knochel. Council members present were: President Connie Basham, Vice President Ronald L. Fruitt, Jeffrey Kessler, Betty J. Michael, and David S. Byers; Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, County Attorney David W. Luhman, Commissioners' Assistant Jennifer Weston, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr. (Councilmembers Jeffrey A. Kemper and Kathy Vernon were absent.)

Greg Guerrettaz, President of Financial Solutions and Tippecanoe County's Financial Consultant, was also present.

President Benson called the County Commissioners' meeting to order.

President Basham called the County Council's meeting to order.

SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENTAL CAPITAL & OPERATING NEEDS: 2003-2013

An updated printout of anticipated capital and operating needs submitted by department heads was distributed. Although some estimated costs were listed, Mr. Guerrettaz said we will need estimated costs for all the needs to enable sound fiscal planning. Some departmental needs were discussed.

Cary Home

Councilmember Byers questioned spending major capital for needs listed by Cary Home if the County is planning to build a Juvenile Detention Facility in the near future. Commissioner Knochel responded that we may be able to remodel Cary Home or build a new detention facility at that location.

Community Corrections

Community Corrections listed the need to expand their facility within the next 1-5 years but some are under the impression that Community Corrections is committed to repay the County for building the current facility. Commissioner Shedd volunteered to research this and approach them to repay the County if documentation of this can be found before thinking about expansion.

County Extension

Councilmember Byers thought their expansion needs were to make office space for other organizations such as USDA and Soil & Water for "one stop shopping". Commissioner Benson said those groups have taken other office space, but she thinks they are still interested in office space in the Extension Building. She volunteered to pursue that issue.

Court Services

Councilmember Byers thought their needs could be eliminated because they have their own funding source.

E-911

E-911 also has its own funding source.

Fairgrounds

Councilmember Byers mentioned that donations are being collected to pay for the pa/sound system. Commissioner Knochel said the \$1,000,000 for replacing the Home Economics Building is based on a study. Councilmember Byers volunteered to pursue the need and progress toward this.

Highway

Auditor Plantenga confirmed that CR 550 E and McCarty Land projects are being funded from the Revolving Fund that had a \$2.85 million balance at the end of 2002. The Revolving Fund was started with \$2 million from

BANS (Bond Anticipation Notes). Auditor Plantenga said approximately \$2 million of TIF revenues, including interest, were deposited and \$1.1 million were dispersed in 2002. He said the TIF has experienced slow growth because of the amount of property tax it is generating.

Maintenance

Councilmember Kessler asked if we should think about refinancing the Courthouse Bonds. Mr. Guerrettaz answered they are not callable until 2005 and it would cost more to refinance than to leave them alone.

Superior Courts 4, 5, & 6

Mrs. Weston said the courts have no planning in place for equipment needs. All of their needs are on an emergency basis because they wait until something is broken and has to be replaced immediately.

Councilmember Byers asked about a uniform filing system for the courts and Archives. Commissioner Knochel answered that Superior Court IV was the first to purchase a new rolling file system and some of the other courts and the Prosecutor have also purchased this system. He said each court has its own idea of what it wants. Commissioner Shedd said the County should look at a new filing system for Archives but this will be a major cost. She volunteered to work with the courts to try and move them toward a uniform filing system and a plan for growth as caseloads increase. She and Councilmember Michael think it would be beneficial to add a Court Administrator position.

Treasurer

Mr. Guerrettaz distributed the Cash Management Committee's draft RFP that will be sent to lending institutions to try decrease the number of the County's accounts to four (4). He recommends moving to mandatory direct deposit because it is cost effective. Approximately 60% of the employees are utilizing direct deposit.

REVENUE COMMITTEE UPDATE: Councilmember Kessler

- ♦ The Committee met seven (7) times over the past year and examined fee structures supplied by most of the department heads.
- ♦ The Treasurer is in the process of pooling our various accounts for a greater return.
- ♦ The Commissioners' Office volunteered to compile a check list of fees the Council reps can use when talking to department heads at Budget time. Department Heads will be asked to justify increases or no increases.
- ♦ Fee information will be compiled to create a flow chart.

NEXT MEETING

The next Joint Meeting of the County Council and Commissioners with Mr. Guerrettaz is scheduled for 10:30 A.M., Tuesday, May 13, 2003 in the Tippecanoe Room.

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Shedd moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Knochel; motion carried.

RECESSED

- Councilmember moved to recess the Council until 1:00 P.M., seconded by Councilmember Kessler; motion carried.

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor